

Town of Rowe
Board of Selectmen – Minutes
Wednesday, May 18, 2016 – 3:00 pm
Rowe Town Hall

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Wilson at 3:00pm.

Present: Chair Wilson, Vice-Chair Quist, Dennis May and Executive Secretary Janice Boudreau

Minutes:
Chair Wilson accepted the Minutes of May 04, 2016 as presented.

New Business

1. Welcome New Select Board Member: Chair Wilson welcomed new Board Member Dennis May to the Select Board and thanked him for his interest in serving the Town.

Motion to Appoint: Chair Wilson made a motion to appoint Selectman Quist as Vice-Chair of the Select Board. The motion, seconded by Selectman May, was accepted. (2/0/1) Selectman Quist abstained from the vote.

2. Chair Wilson Report on Small Town Summit on 5/5/16: Chair Wilson reported attending a Small Town Summit Meeting in Charlemont with area towns to discuss their mutual concerns. It was agreed to meet again in working groups and then on a regular basis with legislators to effect change. Mutual concerns addressed were Broadband, regionalizing services, schools and logistical challenges of running a small Town. Chair Wilson asked for input to bring to the meeting.

3. Consider Making Ex.Secretary and Police Chief Salaried: Chair Wilson suggested that the positions be made salaried positions.

Motion to Make Salaried Positions: Following discussion, Chair Wilson made a motion to make the Executive Secretary and Police Chief salaried and, therefore, are no longer required to complete timesheets. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Quist, was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

4. Discuss Extremely Poor Telephone and DSL service from Verizon- Hancock, MA Sued Verizon Successfully: Chair Wilson discussed the poor telephone service residents were experiencing in Rowe. Chair Wilson said that she learned that if you send a complaint to Mass Dept. of Telecommunication and Cable that they will have to investigate.

Move to Write to Mass Dept. of Telecommunications and Cable: Chair Wilson made a motion to send a complaint to the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunication and Cable concerning the inadequate service in Rowe citing specific examples. The motion, seconded by Selectman May, was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

5. Solar By-Law needs to be Strengthened: Chair Wilson said that the current Solar By-Law was inadequate and needed more stringent guidelines. Following discussion, it was agreed to work on Industrial Solar By-laws .

6. Discuss Constraints on Budget and Town's Share of Insurance Premiums: Chair Wilson discussed the rising costs of health insurance and the fact that the Town paying 85% of the premium is putting a major strain on the omnibus budget. Dropping the percentage of the Town share should be considered. It will be difficult to balance the budget next year without the windfall of the Assessor's Overlay Account we had this year. A family health insurance plan on average costs the Town \$22,000 per year.

7. A Resolution Adopting the Town of Rowe Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan: Select Board Members reviewed the final version of the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan that was recently updated recognizing all of the Town's natural hazards and puts Rowe in a better position to apply for FEMA funding. A committee formed to update the 2007 plan.

Motion to Adopt Plan: Following review, Chair Wilson made a motion to sign and adopt the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2016. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Quist, was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

8. Review and Sign Annual Energy Report for 2015: The final report for FY15 Green Community for Rowe presented by the Energy Committee was reviewed.

Motion to Sign Report: Following review, Chair Wilson made a motion to sign the final report for FY15 Rowe Green Community. The motion, seconded by Selectman May, was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

9. Memorandum of Understanding for Emergency Management Coordination Services: A Memorandum of Understanding was reviewed for a Multi-Agency Coordination Center as part of a regional plan between Franklin Regional Council of Governments on behalf of the Franklin County Regional Emergency Planning Committee and the Town of Rowe.

Motion to Sign MOU: Chair Wilson made a motion sign the 'Memorandum of Understanding for Emergency Management Coordination Services'. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Quist, was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

10. Line Item Transfer Requests: Select Board Members reviewed two Line Item Transfer Requests.

Motion to Accept Request: Following review, Chair Wilson made a motion to accept the Line Item Transfer of \$800.00 from the Board of Health Operations (01-5-512-400) to the Health Services Operations (01-5-512-420) to cover Health Services operating expenses through year end. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Quist, was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

Motion to Accept Request: Following review, Chair Wilson made a motion to accept the Line Item Transfer of \$6178.14 from the Snow and Ice Removal Account (01-5-423-400) to the Energy Committee Operations (01-5-512-420) to cover small overage on the project to insulate and air seal Town Hall, Library and DPW Garage. The motion, seconded by Selectman May, was accepted. (2/0/1) Vice-Chair Quist abstained from the vote.

11. John Magnago Request: A Letter was sent to the Select Board about paying for a bugler for the Memorial Day celebration for \$50.00.

Motion to Approve: Chair Wilson made a motion to approve a request to pay for a bugler to play at the Town Memorial Day event for \$50.00 to be paid from the General Administration budget. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Quist, was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

12. Appointment to Board of Health: Chair Wilson reported that David Cousineau resigned from the Board of Health, not accepting the elected position.

Motion to Appoint: Following discussion, Chair Wilson made a motion to appoint Maggie Rice to the Board of Health. The motion, seconded by Selectman May, was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

13. Appointment to Finance Committee: There was discussion about appointing a Finance Committee member to the Finance Committee following the resignation of Dennis May. It was agreed that Vice-Chair Quist would contact a resident to discuss further upon a recommendation.

14. Meet with Jenn Morse to discuss Old Home Day: Tabled until next meeting

15. Executive Secretary Updates: Janice Boudreau asked to revisit the Hazing Policy and clarify the wording of unused vacation time for the Personnel Policy Manual. It was agreed to address hazing under "Workplace Violence/Harassment".

Old Business

1. Bridge Update: Highway Superintendent Larned explained that the work on Cyrus Stage Bridge was on hold waiting to hear from MassDOT. In the interim, new weight limits will be posted. It was agreed that the bridge repair was a priority.

2. Road Maintenance Update: Larned explained that the plan for the Summer is to repave Stone Hill Road and re-coat Shippee Road and that he had gone through Franklin Council Regional Council of Government (FRCOG) for materials bidding. It was agreed to continue to discuss planning and to project the cost of paving per mile to inform residents and prepare a road priority plan for the future. FY17 Budget has \$137,000 set aside for road reclamation.

3. Yankee Road Issue: Following discussion, it was agreed to meet with someone from Yankee to determine road ownership and meet with Select Board Liaison Dennis May on site.

4. Review Annual Town Meeting and New Warrant Format: There was discussion about the new ATM warrant format and whether it was working. It was agreed that it was fine and to discuss the budget process for next year and set a calendar timetable with budget planning tasks.

Warrants: Review FY16W24 and FY16PW24

Adjournment:

Seeing no further business, Chair Wilson made a motion to adjourn the Meeting at 5:27 p.m. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Quist, was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Boudreau

Approval Date:

JUNE 15, 2016

Approved:

Marilyn Wilson

Marilyn Wilson, Chair

Walter J. Quist

Walter J. Quist, Vice-Chair

Dennis May
Dennis May, Selectman

Attachments:

- Agenda 05-18-16
- FY16 Line Item Transfer Requests (2 pgs.)
- MOU with EMCS between FRCOG on behalf of FCREPC and Town of Rowe (5 pgs.)
- Magnago Letter request
- Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution